



**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

May 18, 2026

7:00 PM - Town Hall - Council Chambers

<https://youtube.com/live/S2m4wA-gFbQ>

1. PUBLIC HEARINGS - 6:55 PM - Disposition of Lot 29 Main Street

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 6:55pm.

Present: Linda Allegro, Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, Marie Pyznar, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Lori Unghire, Zach Zannoni

Absent: Gina Cekala, Robert Cressotti, Carol Hall

The following Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Hartford Courant on May 5, 2026 and May 11, 2026.

The Enfield Town Council will hold a Public Hearing in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 6:55pm to allow interested residents an opportunity to express their opinion regarding the proposed disposition of Lot 29 Main Street by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation. Additional information is available by calling the office of the Town Manager at 860-253-6350.

Dated this 7th day of May 2026, Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk

Chair Santanella announced the ground rules.

There being no members of the public who wished to speak, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:56pm.

2. PRAYER - John Santanella

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL

Present: Linda Allegro, Gina Cekala (arrived at 7:11pm), Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, Marie Pyznar, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Lori Unghire, Zach Zannoni

Absent: Robert Cressotti, Carol Hall

Also present were Town Manager, Matthew Coppler; Assistant Town Manager, Steve Bielenda; Town Attorney, Cindy Cieslak; and Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey.

5. FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT

6. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Special Meeting - April 27, 2026

MOTION #7503 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Zach Zannoni to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7503** adopted unanimously.

- Special Meeting - April 29, 2026

MOTION #7504 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Marie Pyznar to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7504** adopted unanimously.

- Special Meeting - May 4, 2026

MOTION #7505 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Zach Zannoni to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7505** adopted unanimously.

- Regular Meeting - May 4, 2026

MOTION #7506 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Linda Allegro to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7506** adopted unanimously.

- Special Meeting - May 6, 2026

MOTION #7507 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Linda Allegro to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7507** adopted unanimously.

- Special Meeting - May 7, 2026

MOTION #7508 by: Cynthia Mangini seconded: Linda Allegro to accept the minutes.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7508** adopted unanimously.

7. SPECIAL GUESTS

- Proclamation - National Public Works Week

Deputy Mayor Santanella presented Donald Nunes, Director of Public Works, with a proclamation in recognition of National Public Works Week. The proclamation designates May 17th through May 23, 2026 as National Public Works Week. It recognized the hard work and dedication of the Public Works staff in maintaining, supporting and facilitating infrastructure and other vital services to the residents of Enfield. It acknowledged the contributions they make in protecting the health and safety of residents while improving their quality of life.

Mr. Nunes thanked the town for bringing awareness to all his department does. From tree clearing to snow removal and maintaining intricate infrastructure, he stated his appreciation and gratitude to his 136 employees. Mr. Nunes stated the Department of Public Works is rooted in service and powered by the community.

8. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND PETITIONS

Lucien LeFevre, 54 Kimberly Drive

Mr. LeFevre, Chair of the Enfield Veteran's Council, reminded residents about the Memorial Day Parade to be held on Sunday, May 24th, at 1pm. He thanked the Rotary Club, who spearheaded the veteran banners, and the town for hanging them around town. His only wish was to have more poles available for next year since there is a wait list.

Pam Townsend, 54 Kimberly Drive

Ms. Townsend, resident and representative of Enfield Veteran's Council, proudly announced that over the past few weeks over 5,000 American flags have been placed around Enfield at veteran graves. This would not have been possible without the help of the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and veterans' organizations. She thanked the scouts and their families and leaders, acknowledging the large undertaking. If anyone's veteran has not received a flag, they can reach out to the Enfield Veteran's Council to coordinate receiving one.

Donna Hamre, 52 New King Street

Ms. Hamre spoke in support of displaying the Pride flag and recognition of Pride month in June. She said that by hanging the Pride flag, it shows inclusivity towards the LGBTQ community. She explained that it was a meaningful way to show support and allyship to family and friends. The prior hanging of the flag in front of the Town Hall proved a strong message to the Enfield community, especially younger people in school who are members of GSAs (Gay Straight Alliances). It reminded them that they are seen and accepted, and the removal of the flag was a painful strike for the community, leading them to feel unsafe or hurt. Rehang the flag will remind residents that everyone is welcome and accepted. She thanked the Council for voting to display the flag again, and for celebrating the community with inclusion and acceptance.

Rebecca Greene, 152 Sheridan Road

Ms. Greene said that tonight the Town Council would vote to approve the hanging of the Pride flag in front of Town Hall. She was in full support and asked all councilors to vote in favor. She spoke to the LGBTQ community members and reminded them that they are seen and heard. She has family, friends and students who are members of the community and is aware of the hateful rhetoric that affects their quality of life. She explained that the most

important things a child should experience are acceptance and love.

She had a discussion with her six-year-old about the flag and explained why she was coming back to speak to the Council. She simply explained that the flag represents love, acceptance and visibility and that it was important to respect others. One of Enfield's own students lost their life this year. Nearly 40–45% of LGBTQ youths seriously consider taking their lives every year, and that number rises to 46% for transgender and non-binary youths. The number of young people who attempted suicide within the last year was 12–20%, and was the result of discrimination, victimization and unsupportive political environments. May is Mental Health Awareness month and supporting the hanging of the Pride flag does not hurt anyone, but the removal of it does.

Justyn Elemen, 6225 Bigelow Commons

Mr. Elemen, an ally of the LGBTQ community, said that from the outside it's hard to understand the hate and harassment many have received. He explained it was important to empathize with them, and as a Latino he has experienced hate. He said it was hard to fathom the hatred and hardships the LGBTQ community faces on a daily basis. Hanging the Pride flag shows that the Council and town recognizes and sees the community for who they are, and that they are accepted. He hoped that the community would realize they have allies that want to help and support them. While hanging the flag may seem small, it means a lot.

9. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Councilor Allegro said that JFK Middle School would hold their Spring Concert Series this week. On Thursday, May 21, the JFK Band concert will be held at 6:30pm in the JFK auditorium. On Thursday, May 28, the JFK Orchestra concert will be held at 6:30 in the JFK auditorium.

Councilor Mangini stated that the Rotary Club did an excellent job with the veteran's flags. On May 19th at 5:30pm, the Enfield Rotary Club will host the Veterans banner project unveiling at the Town Green band shell. She received a request from a resident of District 3 about the condition of Memorial Park. The park is situated on the corner of School Street and Hazard Avenue and has fallen into disarray. She hoped that it would be addressed since it is also home to four veteran markers.

Councilor Matthews congratulated the Opera House Players on the closing of their show, *Merrily We Roll Along*, which ran for three weekends. The Opera House Players will perform *Grease*, which will premiere in August. They will perform *Avenue Q* in the fall, *Finding Neverland* in the winter, *Something Rotten* in the spring and *Frozen* as the summer family show. Anyone looking to get involved can visit their website and social media accounts. The

Enfield Fourth of July Celebration will be here soon, and they are searching for community organizations to take part in the celebration. Any non-profits or organizations looking to take part in the parade or celebrations can visit www.enfieldcelebration.org for more information.

Councilor Pyznar thanked the Kiwanis Club for holding their 2nd Annual Bike Rodeo and said they are a wonderful asset for Enfield. She loved the banners and suggested that next year, they should make them double-sided. On Tuesday, May 26th, Social Services will host a Walk-a-Thon event at Alcorn from 3:30pm to 5pm to highlight mental illness in young people. They will also serve pizza and ice cream. She gave a shout-out to the upcoming adult education graduates and recognized the commitment they made.

Councilor Thomas encouraged residents to attend the Memorial Day Parade on May 24th at 1pm.

Councilor Unghire reminded anyone that plansto attend the banner unveiling to bring a lawn chair. She stated that the adult education graduation is one of her favorite events to attend, and that they all have an interesting story. She is very proud of them, and she looks forward to attending on June 4th. The police department will serve hamburgers and hot dogs on June 5th at the Senior Center from 11:30am to 1:30pm during their Police Picnic. The event is free, but tickets are required and can be picked up from the Senior Center. The Senior Center will also host Sheryl Faye on July 9th at 1:30pm, performing as Eleanor Roosevelt. She asked that Ms. Faye be added as a performer on the America250 celebration list. At 5:30pm on June 3, the Senior Center will host a self-defense class. To reserve a spot, call 860-763-7425. On June 12th at 3pm they will dedicate the Senior Center great room to Kay Tallarita.

Deputy Mayor Santanella thanked everyone who attended the blood drive in memory of Jamie Nickerson. He attended as a walk-in, and they were so booked they were unable to take him. They were able to collect fifty pints of blood. He asked for an update on the traffic situation on Spring Street, where drivers were traveling the wrong way down the street. Mr. Coppler said he would get an update for a future meeting. The Police Explorers will have their annual pig roast fundraiser on June 20th from 12-8pm at the South Road Moose Lodge. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the Moose Lodge or by contacting the Enfield Police Explorers.

10. TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

11. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

12. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Councilor Mangini said that the Public Safety Committee met and she and Councilor Hall were able to visit the Scantic River Park to evaluate their parking issues. The Town Manager, DEEP staff, and the Police Chief also attended to assess the situation. Effective Memorial Day weekend, the town and DEEP will monitor and control traffic and parking on weekends. Sergeant Meier has formed a task force which evaluates local road safety and will have an update in June. Additionally, a resident offered their thoughts on the traffic on Abbe Road. It was noted that traffic in that area is being monitored, and data is being gathered for use in applying for federal traffic-calming grants. Councilor Matthews added that the Public Safety Subcommittee includes EMS, fire and police. During the EMS discussion, they stated that drug overdoses are down. It was speculated that it could be due to fewer reporting of overdoses or the increased availability of Narcan.

Deputy Mayor Santanella stated that the DPW Subcommittee met last Monday, and they wanted to arrange a tour of the Annex for the Town Council. He believed it was important for them to get a better look at the building infrastructure before making decisions about the building.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

14. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consent Agenda

MOTION #7509 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Lori Unghire to accept Consent Agenda Items #1-4. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **MOTION #7509** adopted unanimously. Copies of the full resolutions are as follows:

1. Resolution Authorizing an Asset Disposal over \$6,000 - Dura Patcher

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council authorizes the Department of Public Works to dispose of the subject Dura-Patcher per current policy as established by Resolution #3002 and Resolution #4702.

2. Resolution Authorizing an Asset Disposal over \$6,000 - Ambulance

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council authorizes the Department of Public Works to dispose of the subject ambulance per current policy as established by Resolution #3002 and Resolution #4702.

3. Enfield Culture and Arts Commission - The Term of Office of Nzima Hutchings

(U) Expires 6/1/2026. Reappointment Would be Until 6/1/2028.

Nzima Hutchings (U) was reappointed to the Enfield Culture and Arts Commission for a term ending on 6/1/2028.

4. **Enfield Culture and Arts Commission** - The Term of Office of Joyce Bolanos (R) Expires 6/1/2026. Reappointment Would be Until 6/1/2028.

Joyce Bolanos (R) was reappointed to the Enfield Culture and Arts Commission for a term ending on 6/1/2028.

B. Appointment(s)–Town Council Appointed

1. **Patriot Award Committee** – The Term of Office of Christopher Moore (R) Expired 7/31/2025. Replacement Would be Until 7/31/2027

NOMINATION #7510 by: John Santanella **MOTION** by: John Santanella, seconded: Cynthia Mangini to close nominations. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously.

By a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **NOMINATION #7510** adopted unanimously. The Chair declared the appointment made.

C. **Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant to Safe Streets For All Program**

RESOLUTION #7511 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of Enfield does hereby authorize the filing of an application for financial assistance through the Safe Streets for All program in the amount not to exceed \$300,000, and that the Town Manager, Matthew W. Coppler, or his designee, is directed to execute and file such application with the US Department of Transportation, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an agreement with the US Department of Transportation if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Enfield.

Director of Economic and Community Development Aaron Marcavitch explained that the Safe Streets for All Program is a US Department of Transportation program and its goal is to improve safety on state and federal roadways. They have a lot of money for implementation, but in order to obtain it, they are required to go through planning. There is basic level planning performed by CRCOG, and this request would build on that, focusing on four separate areas: Route 5 stretching from the state line to Hazard Avenue, the area of Elm Street by the interstate, the areas of Palomba Drive, Freshwater Boulevard and Cranbrook Boulevard, as well as the Four Corners area. The first three are already mentioned in the CRCOG action plan as requiring updating. The Four Corners intersection is an area of concern for the Enfield Police Department. Each of the four areas would become a study area for ways to resolve pedestrian, vehicle, and traffic safety concerns. This is a request, and there is a match available for \$75,000. The full \$75,000 has not been

pursued, but since it includes the TIF area, at least a portion of the match would come from the TIF funds. He clarified that there was no transfer of funds this evening. That would be done in the future if they were lucky enough to be awarded the grant.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7511** adopted unanimously.

D. Resolution Setting a Public Hearing for the 2026 Neighborhood Assistance Act
RESOLUTION #7512 by: Marie Pyznar, seconded: John Santanella.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council will hold a Public Hearing in the Enfield Town Hall Council Chambers, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Monday, June 1, 2026 at 6:50 pm to allow interested citizens an opportunity to express their opinion regarding the 2026 Neighborhood Assistance Act proposals.

Mayor Cekala said that this was something they do every year and opened the floor to questions. Mr. Marcavitch told Councilor Matthews that they had three applicants this year which would be discussed further at the Public Hearing.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7512** adopted unanimously.

E. Resolution Authorizing the Town to Submit a Community Investment Fund (CIF) Application for the 132 Weymouth Road Project
RESOLUTION #7513 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.G.S. Section 32-285a, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Enfield make an application to the State for an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000 for work related to the environmental remediation of 132 Weymouth Road, and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL,

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by C.G.S. 32-285a

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by Town of Enfield in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000 is hereby approved and that Town Manager, Matthew W. Coppler, or his designee, is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such

additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of Town of Enfield.

Mr. Marcavitch said that this was for the old Porter and Chester Institute. The town had previously submitted a pass-through request for the Brownfields Program for a similar amount, and this would match that amount. He said they had a good conversation with the CIF staff, and the group that bought the property will complete the grant writing, so there would be very little town staff time involved. His office would review the grant application, and the owners would be required to make matches if needed. There would be no budget impact on the town.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7513** adopted unanimously.

F. Resolution Waiving Bids for Sludge Disposal Services at the Enfield Water Pollution Control Facility

RESOLUTION #7514 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter V, Section 8(d) of the Enfield Town Charter, the Enfield Town Council does hereby determine that it is against the best interest of the Town to require competitive bidding for Sludge Disposal Services at the Enfield Water Pollution Control Facility.

Donald Nunes stated that there are five facilities across the state, but MDC was the only one who was able to do sludge disposal for the town. The contract needs to be revisited every year. They started looking into sourcing facilities in Woonsocket and Cranston, RI that may be able to take the sludge. They've also looked into a facility 211 miles away in Bethlehem, NH, but if they were to utilize them, they would need a completely different set of protocols. He believed that MDC was the most logical choice. He clarified to Councilor Pyznar that they started reaching out to MDC for pricing in late March to early April and expects estimates to come in towards the end of the month. Typically, it increases by around 10% per year. Unfortunately, there is no way to extend the contract past one year at a time, even though they've used MDC for the last twelve years. Our facility can only hold 1,300 tons, which is what they are allowed to bring there.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7514** adopted unanimously.

G. Resolution to Transfer Funds for the Department of Public Works Building and Grounds Division FY26 Budget Shortfalls - \$564,285

RESOLUTION #7515 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: John Santanella.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Chapter VI, Section 8(f) of the Town Charter, the following transfer is hereby made:

FROM: GENERAL FUND - REVENUES

Appropriated	Fund 10040000 - 499000	\$564,285
Balance		

TO: BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Building	10300340 - 543100	\$100,885
Repairs/Maintenance		
Maintenance & Building	10300340 - 561400	\$ 22,400
Supplies		
Electricity	10300340 - 562200	\$441,000

I hereby certify that the above-stated funds are available as of May 12, 2026, by John A. Wilcox, Director of Finance.

Mayor Cekala said that some of the shortfalls were discussed during the DPW Subcommittee meeting and during budget deliberations. Mr. Wicander clarified to Councilor Pyznar that money under the Building Repairs and Maintenance Account would be used for the schools. Councilor Pyznar asked if money from the Drip Fund could be used for this maintenance since they are town-owned buildings. Town Manager Coppler said that the Drip Fund money goes directly to the BOE, so any discussion over the use of the funds would have to go through them. Mayor Cekala suggested Ms. Pyznar reach out to BOE counterparts.

Deputy Mayor Santanella asked what the \$100,085 was for. Mr. Wicander said that it was an aggregate of expenses for maintaining buildings around town. He itemized it by anticipated and actual invoices for things like roof repairs, generator testing, HVAC repairs, and inspections. Approximately 40–60% of the amount they have requested would be used for school buildings. The town has roughly 1.5M sq. ft of building space, and 1.05M sq. ft. belongs to the schools..

Councilor Mangini asked if the invoices were still unpaid. Mr. Wicander said that the invoices are broken down by account. One account, for example, has \$36,000 in outstanding invoices. This has caused them to have to move money around to cover some expenses.

Councilor Zannoni asked if the town had the ability to choose the electric supplier and Mr. Wicander responded that they absolutely do. Currently, the town has a supplier contract

and is continually looking for the best rate possible. CCM negotiates the rate on the town's behalf.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7515** adopted unanimously.

H. Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign an Acceptance Agreement from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation for Lot 29 Main Street

RESOLUTION #7516 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: John Santanella.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is advancing the development of a new train station in the Town of Enfield and has identified a portion of Lot 29 on Main Street as necessary for this project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed conveyance was referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Section 9-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the Commission issued a favorable report on May 14, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a duly noticed public hearing on May 18, 2026, to receive public input on the proposed transaction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Enfield hereby authorizes the Town Manager to execute the Acceptance Agreement of Purchase and all related documents for the conveyance of a portion of Lot 29 on Main Street to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, on such terms and conditions as the Town Manager deems appropriate and in the best interest of the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Manager is authorized to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Town Manager Coppler said that this was part of the train station project and the state plans to build a parking area. The town will receive \$90,500 for the purchase. He told Ms. Pyznar that the town would no longer be responsible for caring for the property. He did not believe that the lot would be completed until the end of the project, more likely towards the end of 2028. Deputy Mayor Santanella explained that it was unusual for the Council to hold a Public Hearing and have a resolution on the same day. However, time is of the essence, and they were a little late in responding to the state. While unusual, no one came out to speak either in support or opposition at the Public Hearing.

Councilor Zannoni asked if the state would continue to make pilot payments based on the value of the property to the town after the completion of the lot. Mr. Coppler stated that the state would continue with their payments in the same manner they do with all their projects.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7516** adopted unanimously.

I. Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign a Contract with Municipal Tax Services, LLC

RESOLUTION #7517 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: John Santanella.

WHEREAS, the Town Council strives to identify all motor vehicles that should be assessed in the Town of Enfield to pay their respective motor vehicle taxes;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Enfield Town Council does hereby approve the Town Manager to sign a contract with Municipal Tax Services, LLC., as approved to form by the Town Attorney.

Assistant Town Manager Bielenda said that this was born out of the General Government and Finance subcommittee, and their need for a license plate reader company. Deputy Mayor Santanella explained that this has been in discussion in General Government for over three years. He has gone over it with Councilor Hall in multiple iterations, and it is a bipartisan decision. Since it had been a discussion for years, he believed the Council saw the benefit in doing this. During their last meeting, they had the assessor sit in at the meeting. At a prior meeting, she was asked to speak with other towns who already utilize this company and asked for their opinions. The towns gave beneficial feedback and gave the company high marks.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7517** adopted unanimously.

J. Resolution to Repeal Resolution #6841

RESOLUTION #7518 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Linda Allegro.

WHEREAS, The Town of Enfield adopted Resolution #6841 on January 8, 2024 establishing a formal policy for the display and flying of flags on Town-owned real property and Town-owned personal property; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council desires to formally adopt an updated policy regarding the displaying and flying of flags on all Town property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council hereby repeals Town Council Resolution #6841.

Councilor Mangini asked for copies to be made of Resolution #6841 which they are voting to rescind. Resolution #6841 was voted on back in 2024 during a meeting of the previous

Council, and she believed it was important that the current Council reviews it.

Councilor Zannoni stated he has spoken about this issue as a resident, former Charter Revision member, and as a Councilor regarding the legalities of the resolution. He believed that the reasoning behind the policy previously approved centered around a misunderstanding of the case in Boston, and how that would relate to Enfield. He said that the City of Boston brought forth a policy that allowed the residents of Boston to partake in an application process to determine which flags could fly at City Hall, which is illegal. Enfield made a decision to fly the Pride Flag as a Town Council, and not as the public, to exercise government speech and advocate for what they believe in as a Council. The two scenarios are different, but many people put them under the same umbrella. The resolutions as written would avoid litigation. He acknowledged that people could sue for anything, but whether it holds up in court is another thing.

When obtaining the legal opinion from the Town Attorney, Mr. Zannoni questioned why other government buildings such as the State House have been able to fly such flags without litigation, and if the town could proceed in the same way. Tonight, the Town is exercising its right and the right of the Town Council to express their viewpoint. He respects the opinion of people who believe the town should solely fly government flags, while he respectfully disagrees. He clarified that the resolutions being voted on are, in fact, legal. Many people are struggling with mental health, and the message the Council sends to the public matters. He believed the resolutions don't just speak to the people who are included in the LGBTQ community but send a message of love which pertains to everyone. He did not believe that what was presented should be a partisan vote. Many Republican-led towns in CT have voted to fly the Pride flag. He would gladly support the three resolutions.

Councilor Pyznar respectfully disagreed with Councilor Zannoni. She explained that the policy they put forward in January 2024 specifically stated what flags could be flown on town property based upon a clear policy. She said it was to prevent misinterpretation. She is working alongside Councilors Matthews and Cressotti in the Policy and Procedure Subcommittee to determine what can and cannot be done. She emailed the Town Manager earlier asking where the policy was within the resolution. The proposition states that the eleven-member Council can collectively decide, without guidance, what flag or banner can fly. She believed that a policy is straight-forward, and the one they currently have in place is the best policy for Enfield. She would not be in support of the resolution.

Mayor Cekala said that Town Attorney Cieslak provided the Council with her legal opinions, and the resolution was prepared by the Town Attorney's office and approved by Ms. Cieslak. Ms. Cieslak said that this was what she spoke about at the previous Council meeting during the Town Attorney report and explained the difference between the government speaking for itself versus the rights of citizens to petition the government for their speech.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7518** adopted. Yes: Linda

Allegro, Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Zach Zannoni No: Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire Abstain: None.

K. Resolution to Adopt a Policy for the Display and Flying of Flags on Town Property
RESOLUTION #7519 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Linda Allegro.

WHEREAS, Town Council Resolution #6841 that established a policy for the display and flying of flags on Town property has been repealed; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to adopt an updated policy regarding the displaying and flying of flags on all Town property that is in conformity with the United States Supreme Court decision in *Shurtleff v. City of Boston*, 596 U.S. 243 (2022); and

WHEREAS, Town flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum of free expression by the public; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to speak only for itself, not for other persons, organizations, or entities, in establishing its flag policy and that flag displays are limited to flags approved by the Town Council as an expression of the Town's official opinions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Enfield Town Council hereby adopts a policy for the display and flying of flags on all Town-owned property stating that all flag displays are limited to flags approved by the Town Council as government speech consistent with U.S. Supreme Court precedent regarding government speech.

Councilor Unghire read a prepared statement about the display of flags on town property. She stated that they obtained a legal opinion from the Town Attorney which stated that "if the town would like to display a specific flag as government speech in support of or in advocacy for a particular position or policy, they could do so by repealing or amending Resolution #6841. To expressly allow additional flags, the Enfield Town Council chose to take such action." The Town Attorney also said the town flagpoles are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public and flown flags would need to be approved by the Council, as an expression of the Council. She also advised against allowing private citizens and groups to petition the town to display specific flags, which could then expose the town to costly litigation.

Revising the policy could open the town up to being challenged by First Amendment advocacy groups. If the town was to pass, repeal, or amend the policy regarding flags on government flagpoles, it would open the possibility for litigation and division within the community. She believed they should remain neutral and avoid giving preference to one group or viewpoint. Once they open up the policy, the town cannot select or discriminate based on viewpoints without facing legal consequences. She said flags are symbols of affiliation, beliefs, and causes. She stated that the American flag is the one flag that

represents everyone. The American flag represents freedom of speech, the right to come before the Council and express their views and does not exclude anyone. There was no better symbol of inclusion than the American flag. She would not support the amendment due to the possibility of potential lawsuits. She didn't need a flag as a reminder to love, value, or accept people, or appreciate diversity. She does not find the Pride flag offensive. She is upset that some people do not feel safe or accepted and feels awful that that happens. Hate towards the LGBTQ community is unacceptable, and she recognizes the hardships they face. She won't allow anyone's personal interests to override her fiduciary responsibilities.

Councilor Mangini said that with respect to her fellow Councilors and friends, she supported this resolution. She said that the American flag should be inclusive of all people, but it is not. Many people have to fight for respect in regard to race, religion, and sexual orientation. Under the First Amendment, we have freedom of speech, and nowhere under the amendment does it allow for a group or individual to dismiss another's ability to display their beliefs. She said it was horrible that members of our community feel isolated or not accepted, and we need to work harder as a society to ensure they know they are valued and respected.

Mayor Cekala reiterated that this resolution was crafted under legal advice that the town had received. Deputy Mayor Santanella commented that especially around this time of year, we use the American flag to help remember the enormous sacrifice that many veterans have made to maintain our freedoms. He asserted that it is not an exclusionary flag and would take issue with anyone stating otherwise. He loves the flag and all it stands for, and it represents the type of dialogue they have engaged in. He said it was important that people understand that it is not an either/or type of situation. He cautioned people to be careful of what they say in regard to how this transpires, especially with anti-American flag rhetoric.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7519** adopted. Yes: Linda Allegro, Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Zach Zannoni No: Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire Abstain: None.

L. Resolution Proclaiming June as Pride Month

RESOLUTION #7520 by: Cynthia Mangini, seconded: Linda Allegro.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Enfield, Connecticut welcomes and encourages diversity and inclusion within our community; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Pride Month raises awareness and provides support and advocacy for the LGBT community, and is an opportunity to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances, and build a better Enfield; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month is dedicated to uplifting of LGBT voices, a celebration of the human spirit, and of human rights, and is an opportunity for everyone to embrace and celebrate our differences as the things that make us special; and

WHEREAS, each color on the 6-color flag has its own meaning: red is symbolic of life, orange is symbolic of healing, yellow represents sunshine, green represents nature, blue represents harmony and purple represents spirit; and

WHEREAS, displaying the rainbow flag throughout the month of June further symbolizes the Town of Enfield's commitment and celebration of diversity and support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community, and is a symbol of our unity and an affirmation of the belief that we are better together.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Council hereby proclaims June as Pride Month to celebrate the great diversity of Enfield residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Council urges all residents and businesses to celebrate and build a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance – during the month of June and every month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Enfield will begin the implementation of flying or displaying the rainbow flag at the Town Hall, starting on June 1 and ending on June 30 this year and each year after, to inspire equity, create alliances, celebrate diversity.

AMENDMENT #1 by: Zach Zannoni, seconded: Maya Matthews to amend paragraphs two and three to change LGBT to LGBTQ+.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #1** adopted unanimously.

AMENDMENT #2 by: Zach Zannoni, seconded: Maya Matthews to amend paragraph five and add "Queer +" after the word "transgender."

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared **AMENDMENT #2** adopted unanimously.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7520** adopted as amended. Yes: Linda Allegro, Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Zach Zannoni No: Marie Pyznar, Lori Unghire Abstain: None. Councilor Unghire erroneously voted in the affirmative and asked to change her vote and record her vote as "against."

15. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING

MOTION by: John Santanella, seconded: Marie Pyznar to suspend the rules and add an item to the agenda. Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously.

RESOLUTION #7521 by: John Santanella, seconded: Marie Pyznar.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, The Town Council authorizes the Town, with the legal services of McGregor Law Group PC of Boston as Special Counsel, to file and pursue a lawsuit in Suffolk Superior Court against the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), and other parties as appropriate, to challenge the MassDEP's Final Authorization to Construct Permit, Deer Park Recycling, East Longmeadow, on legal grounds deemed by Special Counsel to be warranted, and to serve on the MassDEP such advance notice thereof as is required, legal fees and expenses therefor to be an authorized amendment to Special Counsel's existing Fee Agreement for other related litigation

Deputy Mayor Santanella stated that the Council has been working to oppose the construction of the Deer Park Recycling Facility over the border in East Longmeadow. They set aside approximately \$200,000 from the previous Council for litigation. They have taken the Counsel's advice to appeal a recent judgment which was not in the town's favor. The Town Attorney has been consulted, and they anticipate the cost to be approximately \$25,000 for the next step. He believed they were unanimous in wanting to continue to fight.

Town Attorney Cieslak stated they are appealing the Town of East Longmeadow Board of Health's decision for the site approval. This would be an appeal to the MA Department of Environmental Protection's decision to construct permit. The two go hand in hand: first the site approval and then the authority to construct. After that, there would be a permit giving authority to operate. Currently, the town is authorizing the appeal for the authority to construct. She will keep the Council up to date on the matter, as well as any associated costs.

Councilor Pyznar clarified that although the recycling plant is going in East Longmeadow, the large trash trucks and materials will utilize Enfield roads. The town has been very vocal for the last four years about their opposition to the site and have attended many of their Planning and Zoning meetings. Since Enfield had been invested from the beginning, they made sure to set aside \$200,000 for legal costs. It was unanimous that they had the Town Attorney continue to fight.

Councilor Zannoni disagreed with his fellow Council members and was sympathetic to this cause. He has reservations about the rail line, and East Longmeadow has placed a lot of

faith in having a rail line that would alleviate some of the traffic. He preferred the town engage in non-litigation and lean on delegates in Hartford to see what can be done about our state roads without using taxpayer funds. He would not be in support.

Upon a **ROLL CALL** vote, the Chair declared **RESOLUTION #7521** adopted. Yes: Linda Allegro, Gina Cekala, Cynthia Mangini, Maya Matthews, Marie Pyznar, John Santanella, Aaron Thomas, Lori Unghire No: Zach Zannoni Abstain: None.

17. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS/APPLIES ONLY IF PRIOR TO 11:00 p.m.

None.

18. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Aaron Thomas, seconded: Lori Unghire to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW OF HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the **MOTION** adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bailey, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

Lindsay Petrucci, Assistant Town Clerk
Secretary of the Council

TOWN OF ENFIELD

ASSET DISPOSAL AND TRANSFER FORM-ITEMS VALUED AT \$6,000 OR MORE

Section 1 – Request

Department: DPW/FLEET

Date Requested: 4/2/2026

Asset Description:

2014 DURA-PATCHER 125DJT. This is a trailered pot hole patcher where the aggregate is in the dump truck(the tow vehicle) and the tack/asphalt is heated and on-board the Dura-Patcher and both products are sprayed and injected in pot holes. This unit has been replaced by a more efficient pothole truck which has larger capacity and ability to perform larger and permanent repairs.

Asset Location: 40 Moody Rd

Munis Asset # (if applicable): 5169 Fleet# (if applicable): 1059

Serial, ID, VIN, or Model #: 20721 Mileage: N/A

Reason for Disposal: ☒ No longer needed ☐ Cannot be repaired ☐ Scheduled for replacement

Condition: ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor

Estimated Value: \$ 10,000 How Obtained Internet

Disposal method: public auction, www.publicsurplus.com

Department Head Authorization: [Signature]

Date: 24/08/2026

Section 2 – Approval (to be completed by Town Manager, Town Council Approval also needed. Attach Approved Resolution)

Asset disposal approved by Town Council: _____ Yes _____ No Date: _____

Town Manager Authorization: _____ Date: _____

Section 3 – Public Notice Consistent with State and Town requirements, a minimum of thirteen days prior to the auction date/bid opening providing a description of the surplus property, the date and the address/website address for the auction (if applicable)

Publication: _____ Date of Notice: _____

This section completed by: _____

Section 4 – Disposal Details:

☐ Sold ☐ Transferred to another governmental agency at or below value ☐ Lease ☐ Loan ☐ Thrown Away

To: Name _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount: _____ Payment terms: _____

Vehicle Only: Insurance form completed? _____ Yes _____ No

This section completed by: _____ Date: _____

Send Original to the Finance Director, give a copy to the Requesting Department Head, and keep a copy for your files.

For Finance Department Use Only:

Item removed from capital asset schedule (if applicable): _____ Yes _____ No

Finance Director Authorization: _____ Date: _____

TOWN OF ENFIELD

ASSET DISPOSAL AND TRANSFER FORM-ITEMS VALUED AT \$6,000 OR MORE

Section 1 – Request

Department: DPW/FLEET

Date Requested: 4/2/2026

Asset Description:

2018 Dodge Ram 4500 ambulance remount. This ambulance has been replaced, has high mileage and is not suitable for re-purpose.

Asset Location: DPW, 40 Moody Rd.

Munis Asset # (if applicable): 73489 Fleet# (if applicable): 1177

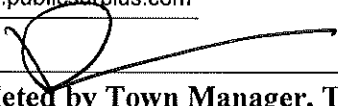
Serial, ID, VIN, or Model #: 3C7WRLBL8JG175847 Mileage: 241,000

Reason for Disposal: ☒ No longer needed ☐ Cannot be repaired ☐ Scheduled for replacement

Condition: ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor

Estimated Value: \$ \$12,000 How Obtained Internet and previous sales

Disposal method: Public auction, www.publicsurplus.com

Department Head Authorization: 

Date: 04/08/2026

Section 2 – Approval (to be completed by Town Manager, Town Council Approval also needed. Attach Approved Resolution)

Asset disposal approved by Town Council: _____ Yes _____ No Date: _____

Town Manager Authorization: _____ Date: _____

Section 3 – Public Notice Consistent with State and Town requirements, a minimum of thirteen days prior to the auction date/bid opening providing a description of the surplus property, the date and the address/website address for the auction (if applicable)

Publication: _____ Date of Notice: _____

This section completed by: _____

Section 4 – Disposal Details:

☐ Sold ☐ Transferred to another governmental agency at or below value ☐ Lease ☐ Loan ☐ Thrown Away

To: Name _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount: _____ Payment terms: _____

Vehicle Only: Insurance form completed? _____ Yes _____ No

This section completed by: _____ Date: _____

Send Original to the Finance Director, give a copy to the Requesting Department Head, and keep a copy for your files.

For Finance Department Use Only:

Item removed from capital asset schedule (if applicable): _____ Yes _____ No

Finance Director Authorization: _____ Date: _____



April 6, 2026

CERTIFIED MAIL

Christopher W. Bromson
Town Manager
Town of Enfield
820 Enfield Street
Enfield, CT 06082-2997

Dear Mr. Bromson:

Subject: File No.: 320-005-029
Owner(s): Town of Enfield
Town: Enfield



The State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) is now acquiring property for Enfield Railroad Station. In connection therewith, we enclose our map dated August 2025, detailing the proposed acquisition.

The State's offer, as evidenced by the enclosed offer letter, is \$90,500.00. This offer is based upon an appraisal as prepared by a licensed real estate appraiser. A copy of the State's appraisal will be made available upon request.

As is standard of real estate acquisitions of this type, the conveyance of "good and sufficient title" is required from the owners of record. Should the Department's title examination of your property reflect encumbrances that prohibit the transfer of adequate title, your assistance will be required. In this regard, a copy of our title report cover page is enclosed for your review and comment.

If the offer is acceptable, please execute the enclosed acceptance agreement and W-9 form and return them to my attention. Kindly include a resolution or other documentation indicating the person(s) authorized to sign on behalf of the Town of Enfield. Oral representations or promises made during the negotiation process are not binding on the Department.

I am available to meet with you to review the offer, the construction plans, and answer any questions you may have. Please contact me directly at (860)-594-2436 or email me at Reinalish.Cotto@ct.gov by April 15, 2026.

Very truly yours,

Reinalish Cotto
Acquisition/Relocation Section
Division of Rights of Way

Enclosures



OWNER: Town of Enfield

PROPERTY FILE NO. 320-005-029

ADDRESS: Lot 29 Main Street

TOWN: Enfield

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statute(s) and as required for Enfield Railroad Station, the Commissioner of Transportation finds it necessary to acquire from you the following property rights as described on the attached map; as dated August 2025.

Compensation payable to you for the proposed acquisition and all legal damages to any remainder is as follows:

Value of land to be acquired:	\$ 30,958.00
Value of easement to be acquired:	\$ 1,000.00
Improvements: (Contributory Value)*	\$ 1,000.00
Damages to the remainder (Severance):	\$ 57,500.00
Total Compensation	\$ 90,500.00 (Rounded)

Building, structure and other improvements: *Trees & Vegetation

Tenant owned improvements not covered in offer: N/A

The above represents an offer of just compensation for the property rights necessary for the subject construction project as developed by the Division of Rights of Way. Should you wish to accept this offer, please review and execute page two of this offer letter.

Please note that the Department has determined that the remaining property outside of what is necessary for the subject construction project constitutes an uneconomic remnant. Therefore, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 24, Section 24.102(k), the Department is willing to enter into negotiations to acquire this property in total.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Reinalish Cotto at the telephone number or address shown below.

Very truly yours

Christina L. Smith
Transportation Principal Property Agent
Acquisition/Relocation Section
Division of Rights of Way
Bureau of Engineering and Construction

Attachment: Taking Map

bcc: Workflow File

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Property File No.: 320-005-029

Owner Name: Town of Enfield

Acceptance Agreement

It is understood that you agree to the State's offer in the amount of \$90,500.00. The following shall apply:

- The above award is in full settlement for all real property rights acquired and constitutes a full and final payment for any and all loss of value caused by this acquisition. *Construction Easements only – Should the use of the area exceed the intended timeframe, you may be eligible for additional compensation. You must notify this office in writing to begin the formal review process.
- This acquisition is in accordance with C.G.S. Sec.13a-73(c), 13a-98e, 13b-36(a) & 13a-79; as applicable.
- This agreement is subject to final approval(s) in accordance with C.G.S. Sec. 13a-73(h)
- Pending the delivery of good and sufficient title, an Immediate Right of Entry is hereby granted to the State of Connecticut, and/or its agents to proceed with the construction of the subject project.
- Payment(s) will be made by check issued from the Treasurer of the State of Connecticut to the property owner and/or mortgagee (if applicable) at the time of closing.
- The owner agrees to assist in the securing of good and sufficient title and agrees to convey the same by instrument prepared by the Department.

Owner's Legal Signature

Date

Owner's Legal Signature

Date

Christina L. Smith, Principal Property Agent

Date

State Properties Review Board

Date

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

Invoice Date: _____ Invoice #: _____ CORE P.O. #: _____ CORE Receipt #: _____

Payee: (Name & Address)

Town of Enfield

820 Enfield Street

Enfield, CT 06082

Payee's FEIN/SSN:

Invoice Amount:

\$90,500.00

Property Location:

Lot 29 Main Street, Enfield, CT 06082

Coded By: _____ Reviewed By: _____ Date: _____

FUND	SID	Dept ID	Project No. DOTXXXXXXXXRW	Activity	Source Type	Account	Parcel No.	Detail Amount
13033	43667	DOT57125	DOT03200005RW	RW0000	RW201	55470	029	\$90,500.00

RECEIVED CHECK NO. _____

DATE _____

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

IN PAYMENT OF ABOVE.

BY _____

Complete.
STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 BUREAU OF ENGINEERING AND HIGHWAY OPERATIONS

TITLE REPORT

LOCATION OF PROPERTY S/S Main St
E/S RR ROW

STATION _____

SHEET # _____

OWNER Town of Enfield

MAILING ADDRESS 820 Enfield St.
Enfield, CT 06082

LEGAL ADDRESS Main St

PROJECT # 320-005

MAP SERIAL # 29

TOWN / CITY Enfield

ROAD NHHS Rail Program - Enfield Station

SEARCH BY L. Hely

DATE 3-28-18, 3-11-2024
2-26-2025

MAP # 8 BLOCK # -

LOT # 29 & 30

FIELD CARD Y/N Y DATE _____

UPDATED BY cmg

DATE 01/31/24-3/26/24

BRING DOWN CONFIRMATION BY _____

DATE _____

CERTIFICATE FILED BY _____

DATE-TIME _____

NOTICE FILED-COLPE _____

DATE-TIME _____

CLOSING DATE _____

RECORDED BY _____

DATE _____

PARCEL OUTLINED

SURVEY MAP ☒

ASSESSOR MAP ☒

SKETCH ☒

5 YR HISTORY Y/N ☒

10 YR FEDERAL TAX LIEN Y/N N

ENCUMBRANCES

(MORTGAGES, LIENS, LEASES, WATER PRIVILEGES, POLE LINES, RIGHT OF WAY)

CONF INCLD: Y/N N

GRANTEE	INSTRUMENT	VOLUME	PAGE	DATE
State of Connecticut	48-81-1	175	185	12/17/58
Town of Enfield	Police of Abandonment	385	580	6/24/74

APPURTENANCES

(DRIVEWAY RIGHTS, UTILITY LINES)

CONF INCLD: Y/N N

INSTRUMENT	VOLUME	PAGE	DATE
- none found -			

SURVEY MAPS INSIDE

SKETCH ON BACK Y/N Y

TITLE	RECORDING NUMBER	DATE
State Highway Dept. ROW Map No. 48-03-A		7/29/36
Railroad Val. Map No. 55-74-54		6/30/15
Plot NO. 3 Property of Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co.	V. 6, P. 25A	7-22-58
Plot No. 28 Property of Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co.	V. 6, P. 216, 216A	8-1-58

SPECIAL REMARKS (POWER OF ATTORNEY, ANCIENT MORTGAGES)

MAP: DOT - Section of Highway to be Abandoned in Main & North Main Streets, sheet 1 of 2 6/24/74
 V. 7, P. 326

